

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 3-20 are now pending in the application. Claims 1 and 4-6 are amended. Claim 2 is cancelled.

Applicant has thoroughly reviewed the outstanding Office Action including the Examiner's remarks and the references cited therein. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejections in view of the amendments and remarks contained herein.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Mick et al. (US 5,751,638). This rejection is traversed for at least the following reasons.

“For a prior art reference to anticipate a claim under 35 U.S.C. § 102, every element of the claimed invention must be identically shown in a single reference.” *Diversitech Corp. v. Century Steps, Inc.*, 850 F.ed 675, 677, 7 USPQ 2d 1315, 1317 (Fed. Cir. 1988).

Independent Claims 1, 6, 9, 12, 15 and 18 recite an access ports structure. According to the claimed invention, the access port structure comprises three register banks, a first register bank, a second register bank and a global register bank. The first register bank is used to store values comprising a status value of a first port. The second register bank is used to store values comprising a status value of a second port. The global register bank is used to store a control value and one of said two status values. In other words, according to the present invention, an additional register bank, global register bank, is used to store the status value of the register bank that is not connected to the CPU. Therefore, even though only one port is connected to the CPU, the CPU also can view the status of the other ports by storing their status value in this global register. In other words, according to this present invention, the CPU can view the status values of all ports even though this CPU only accesses one of the ports.

Mick et al

The Mick et al patent does not teach a global register. The Examiner asserts that the status registers 309 and 310 of the Mick et al correspond to the claimed global register. However, in the Mick, the status registers 309 and 310 are use to store the detailed descriptions

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of the ports and circuitry. *See column 5, line 40-43.* In other words, the status registers 309 and 310 store not only the status value but also other values and circuitry. Therefore, the status registers 309 and 310 should correspond to the status register located in the first register bank and second register bank. Moreover, the semaphore logic control circuit 302 does not store the status value of the ports. The semaphore logic control circuit 302 only provides control signals in the form of left and right side bank access grant signals to the coupling logic of block 301 as described in the column 5, line 18 to 22. Accordingly, the Mick et al patent, at most, discloses the first register bank and second register bank. That is the claimed global register bank is not disclosed in the Mick.

Nowhere in Mick et al is taught or suggested a global register bank is used to store the status value of the register bank that is not coupled to the CPU as claimed in claim Claims 1, 6, 9, 12, 15 and 18. Thus, the subject matter as taught in Claims 1, 6, 9, 12, 15 and 18 would not be anticipated by Mick et al.

Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 1, 6, 9, 12, 15 and 18 are allowable over Mick et al and respectfully requests the 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) rejection of claims 1, 6, 9, 12, 15 and 18 to be reconsidered and withdrawn. Claims 3-5, 7-8, 10-11, 13-14, 16-17 and 19-20 depend from base Claims 1, 6, 9, 12, 15 and 18 respectively, and further define additional technical features of the present invention. In view of the patentability of the base claim, and in further view of the additional technical features, Claims 3-5, 7-8, 10-11, 13-14, 16-17 and 19-20 are patentable over the cited reference, the 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) rejection of these claims should be withdrawn as well.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

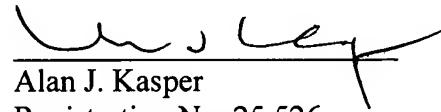
It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested.

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In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

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